

WI-505  
Willards Ticket Office  
Willards  
Private

c. 1900

Centered in the town of Willards at the intersection of Main and Market streets is the old Willards ticket office, a rectangular frame structure distinctive for its broad gable on hip roof supported by triangular shaped brackets. The station dates around 1900 when the transpeninsular line was operated by the Baltimore, Chesapeake & Atlantic Railroad, the company formed by Boston multi-millionaire John E. Searles, who purchased the assets of the Baltimore & Eastern Shore Railroad at public auction in 1894. John E. Searles was the company's president, and Captain Willard Thomson the general manager and later vice-president. Following the formation of the B. C. & A. Railroad, a new station was established west of New Hope at a place named Willards, in honor of Captain Thomson.

Sometime after the discontinuation of rail service between Berlin and Willards in 1955, the old ticket office was relocated and for a period used as the town's post office. The old station currently serves as a commercial space selling and renting videos.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. W I-505

### 1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic

other Willards Ticket Office

### 2. Location

street and number 7485 Market Street not for publication

city, town Willards vicinity

county Wicomico

### 3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name

street and number telephone

city, town state zip code

### 4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Wicomico County Clerk of Court tax map and parcel Map , P.

city, town Salisbury, Maryland liber folio

### 5. Primary Location of Additional Data

Contributing Resource in National Register District

**Contributing Resource in Local Historic District**

Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register

Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register

Recorded by HABS/HAER

Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT

Other:

### 6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count	
			Contributing	Noncontributing
district	public	agriculture		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<u>1</u>	buildings
structure	both	defense		sites
site		domestic		structures
object		education		objects
		funerary	<u>1</u>	Total
		government		
		health care		
		industry		
		landscape		
		recreation/culture		
		religion		
		social		
		transportation		
		work in progress		
		unknown		
		vacant/not in use		
		other:		
			Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory	

Name Willards Ticket Office  
**Continuation Sheet**

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## 7. Description

### Condition

	excellent	deteriorated
<u>x</u>	good	ruins
	fair	altered

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Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Willards ticket office is located at 7485 Market Street near the intersection with Main Street in the heart of Willards, Wicomico County, Maryland. The single-story frame station faces south with the gable roof oriented on an east/west axis. The building was moved to this location from its original site next to the railroad right-of-way.

Built around 1900, the single-story rectangular frame ticket office is supported on a concrete block foundation, and the exterior is clad with asbestos shingles. The one-room plan structure is topped by a gable on hip roof with an asphalt shingle covering.

The south (main) facade is defined by a side entrance and flanking replacement windows. Triangular shaped chamfered brackets extend from the south side to support the wide eave of the gable on hip roof.

The east and west ends of the building are distinguished by the wide eave and heavy chamfered brackets. A secondary entrance is located on the east end of the building, and the west end has a replacement window. Fixed in the gable ends of the roof are round, louvered vents.

The north (rear) elevation is an uneven wall surface with where the northeast corner juts out from the rectangular main block. The wide eave is supported by chamfered brackets, and the windows are replacements.

Inside, the ticket office has been reworked as a commercial space.

Name Willards Ticket Office

**Continuation Sheet**Number 8 Page 1**8. Significance**

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
1600-1699	agriculture	economics	health/medicine	performing arts
1700-1799	archeology	education	industry	philosophy
<u>1800-1899</u>	<u>X</u> architecture	engineering	invention	politics/government
<u>X</u> 1900-1999	art	entertainment/	landscape architecture	religion
2000-	commerce	recreation	law	science
	communications	ethnic heritage	literature	social history
	community planning	exploration/	maritime history	<u>X</u> transportation
	conservation	settlement	military	other:

**Significance dates****Architect****Specific dates****Builder**

Evaluation for:

National Register

   Maryland RegisterX not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance reports, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

Centered in the town of Willards at the intersection of Main and Market streets is the old Willards ticket office, a rectangular frame structure distinctive for its broad gable on hip roof supported by triangular shaped brackets. The station dates around 1900 when the transpeninsular line was operated by the Baltimore, Chesapeake & Atlantic Railroad, the company formed by Boston multi-millionaire John E. Searles, who purchased the assets of the Baltimore & Eastern Shore Railroad at public auction in 1894.<sup>1</sup> John E. Searles was the company's president and Captain Willard Thomson the general manager and later vice-president.<sup>2</sup> Following the formation of the B. C. & A. Railroad, a new station was established west of New Hope at a place named Willards, in honor of Captain Thomson.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> John C. Hayman, *Rails Along the Chesapeake: A History of Railroading on the Delmarva Peninsula, 1827-1978*, Marvadel Publishers, 1979, p. 93.

<sup>2</sup> Hayman, p. 95.

<sup>3</sup> Hayman, p. 93.

Name Willards Ticket Office

**Continuation Sheet**

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Sometime after the discontinuation of rail service between Berlin and Willards in 1955,<sup>4</sup> the old ticket office was relocated and for a period used as the town's post office. The old station currently serves as a commercial space selling and renting videos.

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<sup>4</sup> Hayman, p. 166.

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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## 10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of project area

Acreage surveyed 1/4 acre

Quadrangle name Whaleyville, Maryland

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundary established for property coincides with the metes and bounds of the current lot.

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## 11. Form Prepared by

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name/title Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian

organization Private Consultant

street & number P. O. Box 5

date 10/26/00

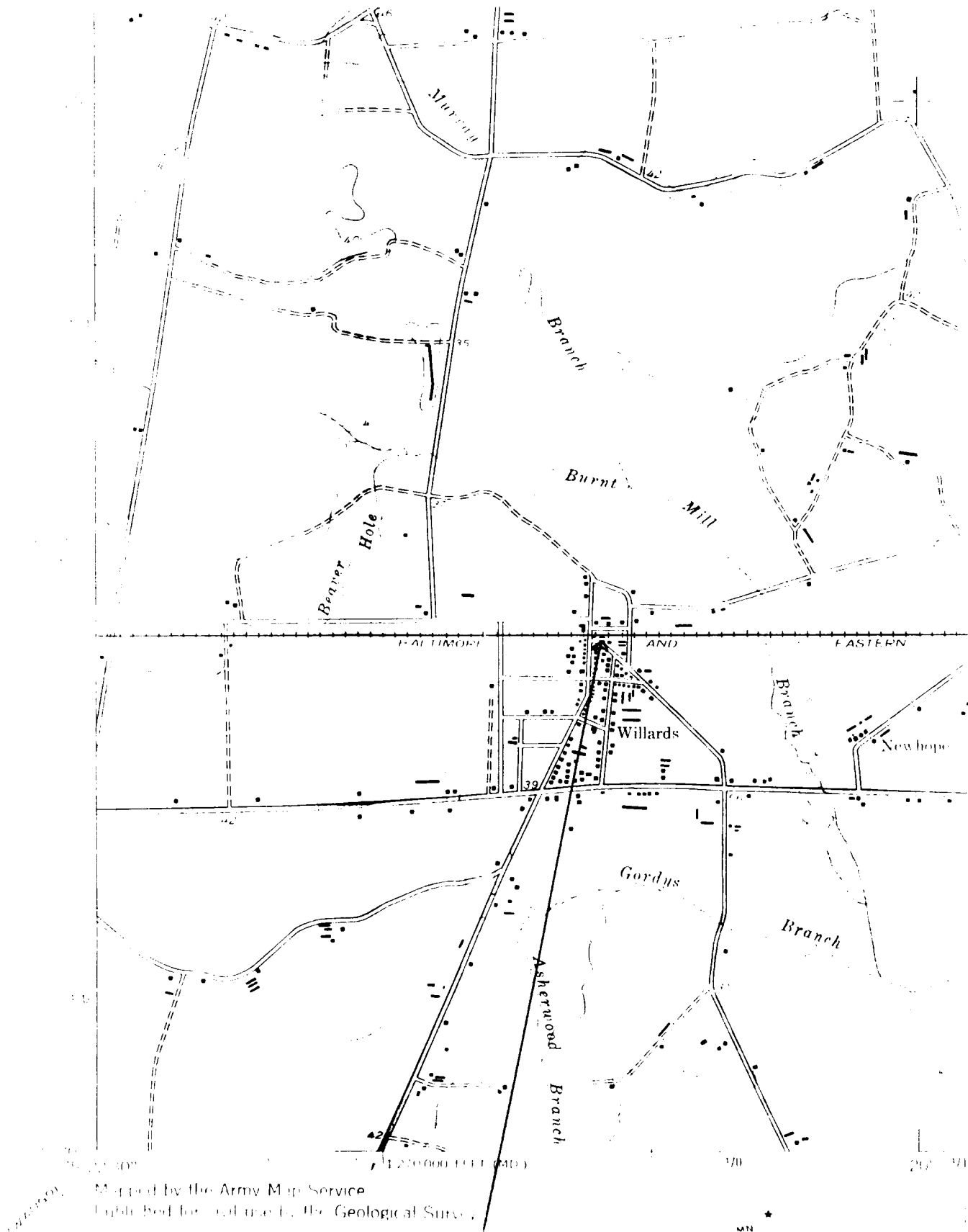
city or town Westover, Maryland 21871

phone 410-651-1094

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
DHCD/DHCP  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville, MD 21032  
410-514-7600



Mapped by the Army Map Service  
 Published for and under the Geological Survey  
 by the U.S. G.P.O.

Topography by photogrammetric methods from  
 ground and plane-table surveys 1942  
 Polyconic projection, 1927 North American d.  
 10,000-foot grid, based on Maryland central  
 latitude Delaware coordinate system  
 10,000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid  
 zone 18, shown in blue

WI-505  
 Willards Ticket Office  
 Willards

Whaleyville, Maryland Quadrangle  
 1942





WI-505

WILLIAMS TICKET OFFICE  
WILLIAMS, ALUMINUM CO. INC.

SOUTHEAST DIVISION

10/00, PAUL TOWN, ALUMINUM  
WEL / MD SITPO

1 OF 1